

CyFair Houston Lions Club

Meeting Minutes

March 28, 2017

PRESENT: Lions' Paul, Keith, Julie, Bud, Dorothy, Mazher, Merrell, Millie, Stedman, and Becca

GUEST: Jean Denson and Imani (Stedman's daughter)

SPEAKER: Lion Becca Franco, "Friends of Scouting"

MEETING:

Lion Paul opened the meeting at 7:00pm. Lion Keith led the pledges, Lion Paul led the prayer, and Lion Stedman led the song "Beautiful Texas." Dinner was served.

SPEAKER PRESENTATION:

Lion Paul introduced our very own Lion Becca to share with the Club about "Friends of Scouting." Lion Becca stated that Cy-Fair is part of the "Soaring Eagle" District. As the number of scouts grew, in 2008 the Rising Star District was the entire CyFair ISD area and was separated into three and now is known as Soaring Eagle in the North Division. Decision was made early this year to put Soaring Eagle back in the West Division with Big Cypress and Copperhead to make all of Cy-Fair ISD in the same Division. This is good news as our Cheer Basket program helps families in the Cy-Fair ISD and now we can expand to the other two Districts to help with this annual Lions Club project. She discussed many aspects of the scouting program. It is an ethics-based and character-building international organization. The local Council consists of 16 counties, serving approximately 60,000.

Fundraising and scout recruiting are continually ongoing. Apparently, recruiting new scouts in the schools is no longer allowed. Lion Keith suggested a "Scout Recruitment and Information Booth" just outside the concession stand during baseball tournaments as another opportunity to talk with families and young potential scouts. This topic will be revisited in the near future. Fundraising through "Friends of Scouting" keeps scouting activities affordable, including the new McNair Cub Adventure in Camp Bovay in Navasota and the new Camp Strake near Evergreen Texas scheduled to open in 2019. Fundraising also assists with other expenses such as maintaining camps, cheer baskets (374 provided last year), and litigation necessary to preserve high scouting standards. Lion Becca was very pleased to announce that our Lions' Club contributes each year.

Lion Becca shared her personal story of involvement with scouting. She began as a Girl Scout and Explorer Post. After marriage and having young boys, in approximately 1998 she returned to the scouting program. She is currently serving as Camp Director at Camp Bovay in Navasota. There are so many activities and programs: full astronomy program, Aquatic Park, Mine exploring, and Camps to name just a few. Lion's Clubs offer many service projects and volunteer opportunities for scouts to earn merit badges and awards. A Day Camp near Willowbrook with the theme "Safari Camp" is set for June 6th through June 9th. Lion Julie offered to speak with TWRC Wildlife Center Outreach Coordinator, Victoria Hepburn, regarding wildlife presentations during these day camps.

CLUB MEETING BUSINESS:

Officer Reports: Lion Paul advised we would bypass Secretary and Treasurer reports as those Officers were not present.

Concessions: Lions Merrell and Bob will work the stand Wednesday evening. Lion Becca will check into volunteers for Thursday evening.

Bowlathon: Held Saturday, March 25th. Lions Terry and John participated.

District Convention: April 22nd. Houston Cy-Fair Club is allowed 3 delegates. Lions Paul, Sandy, and Keith volunteered to attend.

Member Announcement: Lion Stedman shared that his job description recently changed and he has been out of town due to his work schedule. He is striving to attend Lion's meetings/activities as often as possible.

Texas Lions' Camp: This Saturday, April 1st, is our Club workday at the Camp. Approximately 16 people, both Lion Club members and volunteers, plan to participate. Lion Keith will confirm number of volunteers staying at the Camp.

Lion Stedman closed with an enthusiastic "Roar" and Lion Paul adjourned meeting at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Blaies
Acting Secretary